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11:20 (Eilat) 11:30 (Be'er Sheva)

Five killed in S. Lebanon ambush

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

HIZBULLAH guerrillas laid a classic ambush on a squad of Israeli soldiers in south Lebanon...

It was the costliest attack since the agreements were reached after Operation Grapes of Wrath...

The army identified the dead as Lt. Lior Ramon, 21, of Ramat Gan; Lt. Yishai Shechter, 21, of Kedumim; Staff-Sgt. Gavriel Idan, 20, of Herzliya; Staff-Sgt. Amir Ben-Moshe, 21, of Moshav Yuvallim; and Sgt. Yaniv Roimi, 21, of Afula.

Ramon will be buried today at 1:30 in the military section of Tel Aviv's Kiryat Shaal cemetery. Shechter's funeral is scheduled for 5:30 in the military section of the Afula cemetery. Idan is to be buried at 4 in the military section of the Herzliya cemetery.

Three of the wounded were in Haifa's Rambam Hospital in serious condition, including Sgt. Nimrod Mor, 20, of Kfar Aza. Sgt. Hen Aloni, 20, of Kibbutz Dorot, suffered moderate wounds, and four others were treated for light injuries.

All the families of the dead and wounded have been notified, the army said.

Prof. Moshe Revah, Rambam's director, said none of the soldiers suffered life-threatening wounds.

Dani Barislaw, 19, who was lightly wounded, told Israel Radio the ambush was a blur for him.

"There were gunshots. We started returning fire and then I was wounded," he said.

Aloni said he was hit in the hand and eye. "I was wondering how

we'd get out of all this alive. We had to continue fighting, but I couldn't fire because of the wound in my hand. There weren't too many thoughts."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres warned Hizbullah against carrying out more attacks and "heating up the front" on the backs of the citizens of Lebanon. He also warned that Israel would retaliate "at the time and the place and in the way it sees fit."

Peres canceled a scheduled farewell meeting with the General Staff yesterday morning, and rushed to the North to be briefed by senior commanders, including Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak.

He later met with prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu.

"There is certainly an increase in the number of Hizbullah attacks in Lebanon," Shahak said.

The ambush took place about 5:15 a.m., after the squad of Nahal troops had reportedly returned from a night patrol in search of Hizbullah guerrillas and was headed to the security zone, outpost at Ali al-Taher.

Security sources said Hizbullah gunmen waiting in the brush opened fire after the soldiers had bunched together for a debriefing in a spot they thought was safe.

"A group of fighters ambushed a Zionist patrol consisting of more than 10 soldiers. The fighters hit them with machine-gun fire and rocket-propelled grenades and clashed with them until all fell to the ground, dead or wounded," said a Hizbullah statement released in Beirut.

During the clash, mortar fire was directed at a number of IDF and South Lebanon Army positions, the IDF said.

UNFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said Norwegian troops in a UN position managed to observe the fire-fight through a heavy fog. He said the post was about 3,000 meters from the ambush. The observers estimated between 500 and 600 rounds were



Army medics evacuate one of the eight soldiers wounded in Hizbullah's ambush on an IDF patrol in southern Lebanon early yesterday morning. The five soldiers killed in the attack will be buried today.

(Avihu Shapiro/Israel Sam)

WORLD OF SPORT Winless in Seattle It's ALL in the WORLD OF SPORT TODAY

Likud issues guidelines for new government

SARAH HONIG

THE new government "will negotiate with the Palestinian Authority, but will insist that the Palestinians live up to all of their undertakings." It will also exercise its "right to deploy the IDF and other security forces against the threat of terror anywhere."

These positions are included in a draft of the new government's guidelines that the Likud began circulating among its potential coalition partners yesterday. The aim is to wind up the coalition formation process this week, so that the government will be ready to be voted on when the new Knesset convenes on Monday.

But the Third Way described the guidelines as "a watery document," which "we cannot accept as is and will want to amend."

Moreover, the religious parties called off a scheduled meeting with Likud negotiators when it realized the session had been called to discuss the diplomatic and military clauses of the guidelines, not the religious status quo. The draft document did not contain any reference to religious issues.

The guidelines tersely note that the government will negotiate with the PA, but do not specify at what level these contacts will be maintained. The Oslo accords are not mentioned.

The guidelines say "the government of Israel will offer the Palestinians a self-rule arrangement in which they can freely run their affairs. The government will oppose the establishment of an independent Palestinian state."

Also of interest to the PA is a clause declaring that "the government will insist on its right to deploy the IDF and other security forces to counter the terrorist threat - as necessary and anywhere - to safeguard the security of Israel and Jews."

A special section is devoted to Jerusalem, opening with the declaration that "united Jerusalem, Israel's capital, is one and indivisible and under Israel's sovereignty... The government will counter any attempt to undermine the integrity of Jerusalem and will prevent any action which is incongruent with Israel's exclusive sovereignty in the city." This is taken as a warning to PA institutions in Jerusalem, especially Orient House.

In very generalized terms, the guidelines briefly speak of "strengthening, expanding and developing settlements throughout the land." There is no mention of setting up new settlements, nor of settlements in the territories.

They also say that "the government considers the Golan a region vital for the defense of the state and the protection of its water resources. This region must be left under Israel's sovereignty."

The guidelines affirm that the government "will strive to expand peace with all our neighbors, while vigilantly safeguarding national and personal security and protecting Israel's vital interests. The government will deepen the peaceful relations with Egypt and Jordan. Israel will negotiate with Syria without any preconditions."

Upgrading relations with those Arab countries with which low-

Continued on page 2

PFLP terror cell in Hebron blamed for drive-by attack

BILL HUTMAN

A TERROR cell that has carried out several attacks in the Hebron area was apparently responsible for Sunday night's drive-by shooting near Beit Shemesh that left a couple dead, and their infant child sitting in the back seat of their car distraught but uninjured.

Yaron and Efrat Unger, of Kiryat Arba, were buried yesterday afternoon at the Kfar Etzion Cemetery. They are survived by Yishai, seven months, who was in the car, and Dvir, 2.

Family members said Efrat was eight weeks' pregnant. The Ungers were returning home from a wedding in Kibbutz Hafetz Haim when they were fired upon, at just before 11 p.m.

Police sources said cartridge casings found at the scene, several hundred meters from the entrance to Moshav Gofen in Emek Ha'ela, linked the attack with a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine terror cell.

The initial police investigation indicated the terrorists opened fire with two Kalashnikov assault rifles as they passed the Ungers' car, which took fire from the side and then in the front as the terrorists sped off.

Both vehicles were traveling east, toward Kiryat Arba and Hebron. Magen David Adom medics declared the couple dead

at the scene. Yishai was uninjured, but was taken to the hospital for observation.

There were apparently three terrorists in the car, a driver and two passengers in the back when opened fire.

"Words can't describe what I saw," said Yehuda Mesilati, the first person at the scene. Blood was splattered all over the front seat and window of the Ungers' car, which had crashed to a halt in a gully alongside the road.

Area residents complained that police were slow in arriving. "It seemed like a real long time before the police got here," said

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Olmert to be indicted for 1988 campaign funding violations

EVELYN GORDON and BILL HUTMAN

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair has decided to indict Jerusalem Mayor MK Ehud Olmert for alleged crimes committed during the 1988 election campaign, when Olmert served as Likud treasurer.

Ben-Yair informed prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu of this decision at a meeting last night. Netanyahu had reportedly been considering Olmert for a cabinet post, but Ben-Yair's decision nixes that idea. According to a 1993 High Court ruling, no one under indictment can serve as a minister.

Ben-Yair will grant Olmert a hearing, at which he can try to convince him that the indictment is baseless. If he fails, Ben-Yair will then ask the Knesset to lift Olmert's immunity so that he can stand trial.

The draft indictment charges Olmert with aggravated fraud and falsifying corporate documents, as well as two violations of the income tax laws and one violation of the Party Funding Law.

All of the charges relate to the Likud's 1988 election campaign, during which Olmert, as treasurer, was heavily involved in fund-raising. According to the draft indictment, Olmert suggested to Yona Peled - a member of a non-profit organization raising funds for the Likud - that he solicit money from businesses, and give them fictitious receipts which would indicate that the money was spent on advertising. Peled accepted the idea, and in this way the Likud raised NIS 932,787, none of which was recorded on his organization's books.

The scheme violated the law in two ways. First, contributions from businesses are illegal. Second, the fictitious receipts enabled the companies to take tax deductions for the donations as if they were legitimate business expenses. Olmert also submitted a false

report to State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat so that she would give the Likud a clean bill of health for its campaign finances. This enabled the party to receive the remainder of its campaign funding, NIS 2,148 million, from the government.

Peled and eight others involved in the affair were indicted in the Tel Aviv District Court in 1991, but the state said at the time that it lacked sufficient evidence to indict Olmert. Peled's testimony against Olmert during the trial changed the situation, but Ben-Yair saw no point in indicting Olmert unless the district court convicted the others - which it did three months ago.

Olmert last night declined to comment on the affair.

"He has yet to receive anything official from the attorney-general, and until then has no comment," municipal spokesman Haggai Elias said. However, Ben-Yair's office said Olmert received a copy

Continued on page 2

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The Ungers' bullet-ridden car shortly after Sunday night's drive-by shooting attack.

# Thousands attend terror victims' funeral

HERB KEINON

ONE after the other, one beside the other, Yaron and Efrat Unger were buried in the small cemetery in Kfar Etzion yesterday as thousands of people — friends, relatives and perfect strangers — stood in pained silence.

"How can we avenge two righteous people?" said former chief rabbi Mordechai Eilahu. "God Almighty, how long will You hide Your face. We have had enough of Your hiding Your face. Who will comfort the orphans, who will comfort the fathers and mothers, who will comfort the brothers and sisters?"

As he spoke, the only other noises were sobs in the crowd and a breeze rustling the pine trees.

"We are full of faith and are strong, but this is a terrible blow," said Gideon Pearl, the rabbi of Alon Shvut, his pleading sing-song voice reverberating through loudspeakers. "There are no words to describe the pain. Who can give comfort here?"

"They were loved and dear in their lives, and

in their death they were not separated," said Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, quoting from the Book of Samuel. "Two-and-a-half years ago we stood here and prayed that Yitzhak Weinstock would be the last victim. But we did not merit this."

Weinstock, of Alon Shvut, was killed in a terror attack near Beit El. Efrat Unger's parents live in Alon Shvut.

When Lau mentioned in his eulogy that another tragedy had hit the north, referring to the attack that killed five IDF soldiers, many in the crowd turned to their neighbors and asked what he was talking about. News of the attack had not yet been broadcast on Israel Radio.

Unlike some other funerals of terror victims over the last four years, this one was nearly void of political declarations or angry speeches against the government. The anger of the

speakers and the crowd, which stood under a searing sun for two hours in nearly perfect decorum, seemed directed more toward heaven than at the government.

The only exception was Gush Etzion Regional Council head Shilo Gal, who said: "Those who made a covenant with murderers, if they did make such a covenant, cannot say that their hands did not spill this blood, or their eyes did not see."

Ze'ev Unger, Yaron's brother, called for strength to continue. "Dvir [the couple's two-year-old son] cried out for his father all night. Give us the strength to continue to bring him up in the way of Torah, faith and pioneering."

Regarding the raising of the small children — Dvir, and Yishai, seven months — Uri Dasberg, Efrat's father, told Israel Radio. "Someone asked how many children we have. I said six; we had seven. Now we will have eight — all at once another two children were born to us."

## Other drive-by shooting victims

## 'They had so much going for them'

ONE day after Efrat (Effie) Dasberg, 25, and her husband Yaron Unger, 27, were killed in a terrorist attack as they returned home from a wedding, friends and neighbors in Dasberg's hometown of Alon Shvut in Gush Etzion struggled to cope with the loss.

"They had so much going for them, so much hope for the future," said Amos Safrai, a close friend and neighbor. "And now it's all been cut off in the middle."

The couple were the parents of two young children, Dvir, 2, and Yishai, seven months. Efrat was eight months pregnant. Her parents told reporters that they would raise the children. "We hope we'll be able to get younger for them," Uri Dasberg said. "Everything will be done for the good of the children."

"We now have six children, because we used to have seven. Now, in one fell swoop, two more children were born to us and we have eight."

In the hours leading up to the funeral, the Dasberg family's Alon Shvut home was mobbed by friends and neighbors who had come to offer condolences. At

Yochi Dreazen

times, the line stretched outside the house, and people waited patiently in the hot noonday sun, and remembered their friends.

"I was very close with Effie because we were close in age," said a 20-year-old neighbor. "How do you begin to mourn someone you grew up with?"

Conversations with those who had gathered at the house revealed a community still mourning another murder, that of Ya'acov Weinstock, nearly three years ago.

"Wasn't one enough? Didn't we suffer enough then?" asked another neighbor. "Can you imagine what it feels like when another friend of yours is killed?"

Many neighbors pointed out that Efrat's family, one of the first to settle in Alon Shvut, was known by nearly the entire community. Her father, Uri, is a popular educator and rabbi, who works at Tzomet, an institute which finds ways to synthesize Jewish law with modern technology. Her mother, Yehudit, is an educator.

Efrat, who was one of seven children, studied graphic design at

Jerusalem's Emmah College after finishing her National Service. She wrote and illustrated comics and books for children, and had just started a weekly comic based on her family. Neighbors described her as a "wonderful, talented girl who always seemed to be smiling."

Yaron's parents were one of the founders of Sha'arei Tikva, near Elkana. He studied at the hesder yeshiva in the Golan Heights, and later served in an infantry unit. He had been teaching in Kiryat Arba's primary school.

One of Efrat's teachers at the Alon Shvut primary school said the two had seemed to be a perfect match.

"They loved to learn and to teach," she said. "It's so very, very sad."

She added that the murders were particularly hard on her young students.

"All of us take the road [that they were attacked on]," she said. "The kids are scared because they and their families travel on it, and they all wonder how long it will be until it's their parents who don't return."



Mourners attend the funeral yesterday of Efrat and Yaron Unger, who were murdered in the drive-by shooting attack Sunday night. The two were buried in Kfar Etzion. (Arieh Jerozolimski)

## Man thinks he saw killers' vehicle speeding to attack

BILL HUTMAN

YEHUDA Mesilati slowly pulled up to the car he noticed on the side of the road in the Ela Valley on Sunday night, sensing that something was wrong.

Mesilati, who is severely crippled in both legs and walks with crutches, said at first he thought the car had been in a road accident. Even when he saw the dead bodies in the front seat, and child crying in the back, he at first thought that "maybe it was some sort of double murder motivated by a romantic quarrel."

Mesilati, from Ashkelon, was returning from a wedding with his wife and two children. Efrat and Yaron Unger were returning home from a different wedding when they were shot dead by terrorists. Mesilati probably crossed paths with the terrorists, too.

"A car drove in my direction at high speed with its bright lights on, and I flashed my brights, but

it stayed on. He was driving in the middle of the road," recalled Mesilati, from Ashkelon.

"I kept flashing my bright lights, but the car just kept coming right at us. I had to swerve to the side to avoid being hit head on," he said. Police believe this was the terrorist's car, and received a detailed description of the vehicle from Mesilati.

It was several dozen meters later, between Moshav Zecharia and the Re'em Junction, that he spotted the car alongside the road.

"My first reaction was that the car must have been forced off the road by the crazy driver I had just seen. I pulled myself out of my car to get a closer look, and see if the people inside needed help," Mesilati said.

"I couldn't believe my eyes.

There are no words to describe what I saw," said Mesilati. In the front seat were the Ungers, hunched over, shot to death. In the back seat, still strapped into a car seat, was seven-month-old Yishai, crying.

Mesilati, balanced on his crutches, said he "had to break the back window to get the door open so I could get reach the baby. Then, I couldn't manage to unfasten the baby's seat belt, and just about had to rip it off to get him out," said Mesilati.

An ambulance soon arrived, apparently called by another driver who had stopped at the scene, and took the infant away.

The site of them dead in the front seat and the baby crying in the back keeps coming back in my mind over and over again," Mesilati said.

"I don't think I'll ever be able to forget it."

## New heart surgery technique demonstrated here

JUDY SIEGEL

A 44-YEAR-OLD man with a defective aortic valve became the first local patient to undergo extremely complicated open-heart surgery, adapting his own pulmonary valve in its place and implanting a new pulmonary valve from a donor. The operation was performed by Prof. Tirone David, of Toronto, regarded as one of the world's leading heart surgeons, as part of an international symposium on cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery in Jerusalem.

The unusual surgery was carried out in Shaare Zedek hospital and viewed via closed-circuit video by hundreds of doctors and nurses from around the country. David calmly answered questions from a panel of physicians, and even joked, during the three-hour operation, as he molded and secured the valve tissue using hundreds of sutures. The patient's heart was re-started with an electric shock after his body was kept alive on a heart-lung machine.

David praised a senior Shaare Zedek scrub nurse, who seemed to anticipate his every move, even though such surgery had never been performed in the hospital before.

Meanwhile, a new US technique for saving the lives of inoperable heart patients — based on the anatomy of reptiles, which have no blood vessels — was pre-

sent in a lecture. The method, developed by Prof. Alex Zapolsky, of San Francisco, involves the drilling into the cardiac muscle with lasers to supply it with blood.

The laser is used to tunnel into the heart muscle and infuse it with blood, instead of trying to repair the patients' coronary arteries, which are close to useless. Zapolsky said he had performed the procedure on 200 inoperable patients, and that their quality of life has much improved.

Hundreds of cardiologists and cardiothoracic surgeons from around the country, as well as guests from Egypt, Jordan, the autonomous areas, North America, Europe, Turkey and Panama attended the two-day symposium, which ended yesterday.

On the first day, Dr. Yaron Almogor, head of the hospital's catheterization unit, and colleagues performed balloon angioplasty on patients with very serpentine or narrow clogged coronary arteries and then inserted the latest generation of metallic supports to prevent the collapse of the vessels.

One of the patients received the new US drug ReoPro, approved for use here just last week, which significantly reduces the risk of death during catheterization and of the vessels reclogging.

## Vigil backs Netanyahu against religious parties' demands

EVELYN GORDON

THE Movement for Quality Government in Israel began a small protest vigil in the Knesset Rose Garden yesterday, to lend support to prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu in resisting the coalition demands of the religious parties.

Some 10 activists were present, mostly just relaxing in the shade, but also asking passersby to sign petitions in support of their position. Many of the school-age signers, however, did not appear to have any grasp of what they were signing.

Movement leader Eliad Shraga charged that the religious parties' demand to return the religious status quo to what it was in 1992, and to protect this status quo in a new Basic Law, would emasculate the two existing Basic Laws — Human Dignity and Freedom, and

Freedom of Occupation — by greatly limiting their applications.

Over the last four years, the High Court of Justice has frequently used these laws to overturn the religious status quo: It has permitted Reform and Conservative Jews to sit on religious councils; overturned municipal bylaws requiring businesses to close on Shabbat permitted the import of non-kosher meat; ruled that religious courts must use secular rather than religious law to divide property in divorce cases; and granted tentative recognition to non-Orthodox conversions.

Shraga said maintaining the full power of the Basic Laws was especially important in light of the new law for the direct election of the prime minister, because this

law gives the prime minister much more power than he has ever had before.

"If there is anything that can balance [the new power of] the prime minister, it is the Basic Laws," he said. "But in any case, the basis of our constitution [should not] be a negotiable commodity."

Shraga also charged that the religious parties' demands regarding the status quo would undermine the High Court, because overturning so many of its decisions would turn it into an empty forum with no power.

However, the court itself has ruled many times that Israel's current constitutional system grants ultimate authority to the legislature, and that therefore the Knesset has the right to pass legislation nullifying any High Court decision it pleases.

## Netanya couple charged with severe child abuse

RAINE MARCUS

A NETANYA couple was charged yesterday in Tel Aviv District Court with severely abusing their five children over a five-year period.

According to the indictment, the two, in their forties, committed a series of appalling acts against their children, especially against their 16-year-old daughter, including showing her head against a wall, putting her head in the toilet, and forcing her to eat spoiled food.

The girl was not given warm clothes in winter, and the mother did not wash her clothes. She would also hurl lit matches at her daughter, beat her, prevent her from going to school or seeing friends, and would lock the girl in a small room for several days at a time, the indictment said.

The girl's father also beat her,

telling her she was lucky he only slapped her and did not use his fists, otherwise "there would be murder."

When the 16-year-old was younger, read the charge sheet, the mother would wrap her in a wet blanket and kick her as a punishment for wetting the bed. On one occasion the girl's mother hit her so hard that the girl fell and broke her front teeth. The parents did not allow her dental treatment.

Regarding the other children, the parents are charged with beating them regularly and locking them in the lavatory.

"The accused not only neglected their duties as parents but also subjected [the children] to systematic abuse and atrocities, causing them long-term physical and mental damage," read the indictment.

## Two men indicted for snake-catcher's murder

HAREL Hirschgig, 21, and Dan Koenig, 20, both of Kibbutz Deganya B, were charged yesterday in Haifa District Court with the murder of snake-catcher Ya'acov Sela.

Sela's body, which had been buried in the southern Golan Heights, was discovered by high school students on an outing on March 9.

Judges Micha Lindenstrauss, Bilha Gilor, and Shmuel Berliner will hear the case beginning on June 24. The two are also charged with conspiracy to commit murder and aggravated fraud.

According to the indictment, Hirschgig — with the help of Koenig and a 17-year-old youth — had defrauded Sela, who was romantically involved with his

mother Rina, out of some NIS 140,000. The murder was committed to prevent him from pressing charges.

The pair allegedly convinced Sela to accompany them to a bank in Tel Aviv. Then, while driving to Haifa, Hirschgig pretended to be ill and asked Sela to pull over. When Sela stopped his car, Koenig shot him three times with a licensed gun belonging to Rina Hirschgig. Hirschgig then took the gun and fired one shot into Sela's head at point-blank range.

The prosecution said that Koenig has confessed and renounced the murder, and that ballistics evidence shows that Sela was killed with the gun belonging to Rina Hirschgig.

Both defendants were remanded until trial. (Ijim)

## Press Council unveils new ethics code

THE Press Council's ethical court has handed down 59 decisions since it was established a year and a half ago, according to Uri Slonim, head of the court.

Slonim made the announcement at a Tel Aviv press conference convened by the council to introduce a new code of ethics for journalists.

The code establishes norms of fairness, reasonableness, and accuracy in reporting. In the event that an indictment is brought against a newspaper publisher, editor, or journalist, the ethical court will have to determine whether it is a charge reflecting on the character of the individual and should therefore bar him from holding a position of responsibility.

Press Council chairman Haim Tzadok said that the code also requires newspapers to reveal the extent of their financial holdings. (Ijim)

# Yeltsin sees light at end of tunnel

COMPARING life in Russia to being in a dark, scary tunnel, President Boris Yeltsin urged Russians yesterday to go forward with the assurance that they are moving toward a brighter future.

Yeltsin, speaking for the first time on one of his free radio campaign spots, was trying to counter a Communist theme of nostalgia for Soviet times.

He is fighting a tough race against Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov, but Yeltsin claimed he would win in the first round on June 16. The latest polls show the president surging ahead, but they point to an all but certain second-round run-off.

Some people now think they have gotten into a tunnel "where it's too far to return, there is no road that turns away and it's scary to go forward," Yeltsin said on Yunost radio.

He asked Russians to think back on what the country has achieved during the five years of his presidency and "it will be immediately clear what we have left behind, but what we've achieved and how much is left to do."

Many Russians, especially older people whose pensions have shriveled under market reforms, bemoan the loss of the Soviet safety net and fondly remember

News agencies  
MOSCOW

the days of free health care and low, subsidized food prices.

Yeltsin said it was normal to remember only good things, but people were forgetting empty store shelves, "only one party and only one right opinion," and that "we lived behind an Iron Curtain."

He said Russia was building a new economy that will "secure a decent life for people" and returning to its roots with the opening of thousands of cathedrals.

"People are no longer afraid of Russia, they respect it," Yeltsin said, addressing many Russians' regret at the loss of the Soviet Union's superpower status.

"Today our own enemy is our cowardice, our bewilderment... our constant hope for a 'kind uncle,'" Yeltsin said. "There will be no 'kind uncle,' nobody will come and say: on June 17 we'll have a better life. And if anybody says this - he isn't worth a dime."

Most reputable polls say a third or so of the voters back Yeltsin and about about a quarter are for Zyuganov, his main rival.

But in an interview on indepen-

dent NTV, Yeltsin said his "intuition" tells him he'll get the 50 percent-plus one he needs on June 16 to avoid a runoff.

Zyuganov was quoted by a Hungarian daily yesterday as expressing admiration for dictator Josef Stalin and suggesting he jailed fewer people than today's Russian leaders.

"Had he lived for five or six more years, the Soviet Union would have been undefeatable for centuries," Zyuganov was quoted by the centrist newspaper *Magyar Hirlap* as saying.

Zyuganov said "excesses" under Stalin, a euphemism for mass purges, were committed by "aliens." He named two Jewish and one Georgian member of the Soviet leadership of the 1930s.

In response to suggestions that Stalin had killed millions during his three decades in power, the paper quoted Zyuganov as saying: "There might be more people in the gulags (prison camps) now than under Josef Vissarionovich (Stalin) and they live under worse circumstances."

"Stalin made great strides as a statesman. He embraced Russian nationalism, relied on the church during World War II and protected ancient borders of the Russian empire," he said.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin clowns on Sunday after the traditional Tatar game of break the clay pot, as two local officials present him with a covered rifle. The game was part of the Tatar festival 'Sabantui', the celebration of the plough, in the town of Arsk, 60km from the Tatar capital of Kazan. (AP)

# Slovenia applies for EU membership

SLOVENIA was rewarded yesterday for distancing itself from the Yugoslav conflict by being given a lucrative association agreement with the European Union, and immediately applied for full EU membership.

Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek made the application moments after signing the association agreement, which promises trade and economic incentives.

Drnovsek said he hoped Slovenia, one of the Balkans' best-performing economies, would be among the first East European nations to become an EU member.

Slovenia hopes to join in 2001.

At a meeting with the EU foreign ministers, Drnovsek signed the association accord - a first step to EU membership for all aspiring newcomers.

News agencies  
LUXEMBOURG

The accord opens up trade possibilities and sets up regular cooperation in areas ranging from foreign affairs and crime-fighting to tourism and education.

The signing of the accord has been held up for two years in a diplomatic dispute with Italy over property rights for ethnic Italians who fled Slovenia after World War II. The has been settled in a compromise under which Slovenia will allow EU nationals to buy property within four years.

"The application for membership which I'm submitting today... is an important chapter in the book of integration," Drnovsek told a news

conference after the ceremony.

The agreement was approved earlier only after Britain decided against using its veto as part of a blocking tactic it is employing to win an end to an EU ban on its beef sales.

Diplomats said Britain was under enormous pressure from the United States to reward Slovenia for not involving itself in the Yugoslav conflict.

Slovenia fought a brief 10-day independence war against the Yugoslav federal army in June 1991 but has avoided warfare on the scale of that which racked Croatia and Bosnia.

Drnovsek said Slovenia shared many ideals with the EU including "respect for democracy, human rights and the belief in a market economy."

# Waldheim admits he was wrong - but not very

VIENNA (Reuter) - Former UN secretary-general Austrian Kurt Waldheim, in a long-awaited autobiography, conceded it was a mistake to conceal his Nazi war record in the Balkans but maintained his behavior was above reproach.

In his book *The Answer* published today, Waldheim recognizes that failure to address his military record between 1942 and 1945 cast him in the role of political villain rather than elder statesman.

"Today, I know that a detailed curriculum vitae, including all details of my time with the military, may have caused me some short-term problems but years later would have spared me many difficulties," writes Waldheim, who served as UN chief from 1972 to 1982 and as Austrian president from 1986 to 1992.

"I have regretted this mistake many times over and later - admittedly too late - I tried hard to provide an explanation," said Waldheim, 77, in the single chapter of his book dedicated to his war record.

Waldheim's campaign for the Austrian presidency and his election victory in June 1986 were marred by allegations, mainly from the World Jewish Congress (WJC) in New York, that he was involved in war crimes committed by the army of Austrian-born Adolf Hitler.

Despite his repeated denials, the US Justice Department in 1987 added Waldheim's name to its immigration "watch list" of people to be refused entry to the United States because of their association with Hitler's regime.

He was cold-shouldered by the international community, plunging Austria into a period of isolation which was only truly lifted when Vienna joined the European Union last year.

"The truth is, as so often, far less worthy of head-

lines. I had nothing to hide, neither my military service in general nor my time in the Balkans," he writes in *The Answer*.

Waldheim, a member of Austria's conservative People's Party, senses an international smear campaign and notes his military record, which first came under scrutiny in 1986, had long been in the public domain.

"Between Vienna and New York, in a conspiratorial way, the basis for an anti-Waldheim campaign was laid," he says, turning his fire on Social Democrat opponents at home and the WJC in the United States.

Waldheim has long claimed his work as a junior staff officer and liaison officer, responsible for compiling reports on the enemy and sometimes interpreting, kept him far from the front line in the Balkans.

In his book, he again denies knowledge of the deportation of thousands of Greek Jews from Salonika, just six km from where he was based for many months.

"At that time I wasn't even in Salonika, but on study leave in Vienna and later in Tirana and Athens," Waldheim says.

"I know I am speaking for many of my compatriots when I say: We knew Jews were hunted down but we knew nothing of the Holocaust, of the systematic extermination of millions of Jews," he continues.

Waldheim regarded as a clear vindication his victory in the 1986 presidential election, which made him the nation's first non-Socialist head of state since World War II.

"Young people knew instinctively, here was someone who was being wrongly accused," he says of the result, which was greeted by a storm of protest outside Austria.

# 'Time' lists most influential and most powerful

NEW YORK (AP) - *Time* magazine's list of the 25 "most influential" people in the United States includes Vice President Al Gore, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and rock star Courtney Love.

The magazine also listed the 10 "most powerful."

The 25 most influential, profiled in the June 17 issue on sale yesterday, range in age from 31 to 67. Some are millionaires, others make do on a teacher's salary.

The magazine said its selections were based on their abilities "to educate and entertain, to change the ways we think about ourselves and others."

"We try to identify the people who are truly influencing our culture and the way we live," said Walter Isaacson, *Time's* managing editor. "It's not supposed to be a list of the trendiest people of the hour, nor is it a power list. It's about energy, ideas, and talent."

*Time* magazine, which has chosen a man of the year since 1927, plans to make the influential list, which is not ranked, an annual event.

"Influence can take the form of mass impact," *Time* reports. "Martha Stewart's inexhaustible brand of domesticity claims a sizeable audience. So does Jerry Seinfeld's small-bore irony and Oprah Winfrey's irresistible empathy. There is influence within a creative field. Hence the architect Frank Gehry and the female-rocker-as-opeo-woud Courtney Love."

The 10 most powerful, ranked in order of importance, were: President Bill Clinton, Microsoft's Bill Gates, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, media mogul Rupert Murdoch, Disney's Michael Eisner, General Electric chief executive Jack Welch, Intel chief Andrew Grove, General Motors'

Jack Smith; Fidelity chief Ned Johnson and Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich.

"Power may lack the majesty it once had, but it's still something to cringe, oot squeeze, at," *Time* said.

Also on the list of most influential were: conservative William Bennett, digital entrepreneur Jim Clark, human potential guru Stephen Covey, psychologist Carol Gilligan, management consultant Michael Hammer, fashion designer Calvin Klein, Nike head Phil Knight, television executive Geraldine Laybourne, jazz musician Wynton Marsalis, political consultant Dick Morris, novelist Toni Morrison, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Robert Redford, hospital company executive Richard Scott, Microsoft's head of oew media Patty Stonesifer, biologist E.O. Wilson, sociologist William J. Wilson and physicist Ed Witten.

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# Some civic leaders support Islamists

ANKARA (AP) - The pro-Islamic Welfare Party gained support from some union and business leaders yesterday as its leader began talks with other party leaders in a bid to form a coalition government.

Welfare, which led the December parliamentary elections, was blocked from power by a coalition of two center-right parties which collapsed last week.

Welfare's anti-secular and anti-Western rhetoric has scared many in the business community and the military, but some may be softening their opposition because the alternative has been unstable government.

"Welfare should be supported to form a minority government," said Bayram Meral, leader of the Turkish Confederation of Labor Unions.

"The Turkish people should see what (Welfare) will bring to the country and what it will take away. There is no reason to be afraid of Welfare."

Sakip Sabanci, one of Turkey's most powerful businessmen, agreed. "If we believe in democracy, we have to test Welfare in government," he said.

Since being asked by the president last Friday to try to form a coalition, Welfare leader Necmettin Erbakan has sought to calm fears about his party by saying he would respect democracy fully if given the chance to rule.

Erbakan met with the leader of a small nationalist party yesterday, first in a series of meetings to be held this week with all the leaders in Parliament. Erbakan hopes to convince one of the center-right parties to join a coalition.

Mesut Yilmaz and Tansu Ciller (both former prime ministers, broke up their alliance after three months amid hostile personal rivalry.

# Alaska fire 60 percent contained

HOUSTON, Alaska (AP) - Federal disaster officials toured the site of a week-old Alaska wildfire as cool, damp weather helped contain the blaze that burned 15,000 hectares and caused \$10 million in damage.

Firefighters had contained 60 percent of the blaze and it was expected to be fully contained by last night, but won't be safely out for weeks, said Fire Commander Dave Lieberbach.

The fire destroyed or damaged more than 360 buildings at a cost of nearly \$10 million and forced at least 1,800 people to evacuate.

Crews searched residential areas for hot spots and hoped to allow some of the residents back into their homes by yesterday evening.

The cause of the blaze, which burned through an area about 80 kms north of Anchorage, was not known. Wildfires also burned in Arizona and New Mexico.

In Mongolia, exhausted civilian firefighters were sent home but professionals stayed on to battle huge grassland and forest blazes that have killed 25 people in the last two months.

"Now we have to stop using civilians in firefighting. They have worn out their horses and burnt their clothes," said Civil Defense head General Dandinsuren.

Wind-blown blazes that have roared across Mongolia since mid-April have killed 25 people, injured more than 60 and devoured at least 88,000 sq km of Mongolia's grassland and forest.

The more than 380 fires, of which eight still raged out of control, have also killed thousands of head of livestock and dealt the nation's already fragile economy a heavy blow.

"The fires have not stopped and will continue for at least another 10 days," Dandinsuren said.

# Lure of West turns sour for thousands of women

VIENNA (REUTERS) - European Commissioner Anita Gradin told a conference yesterday a harrowing tale of a Polish mother-of-four forced into prostitution in Germany after falling for empty promises of a good life in the West.

Justice Commissioner Gradin told delegates the unemployed 30-year-old had been lured from her home by a businessman who said he could get her well-paid work in Germany as a waitress.

Instead she was raped and blackmailed. "If she refused to work as a prostitute she was warned her family would receive pictures of her ordeal in the mail," Gradin said.



Speaking from behind the fence keeping him from attending the multi-party talks yesterday, Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams talks with the media outside Stormont's Castle Buildings. Sinn Fein, which won 17 seats in elections held May 30, is being excluded for its failure to secure an IRA cease-fire.

# Talks open with Sinn Fein outside

BARRED from long-delayed peace negotiations, the IRA's political allies got a foot in the door yesterday by being allowed into the building but not the talks.

"Sinn Fein are not at today's talks because there has been no restoration of the August 1994 cease-fire," the British and Irish governments said in a joint statement about an hour before the formal opening.

A 15-strong delegation from the Irish republican party were kept outside the venue as British and Irish Prime Ministers John Major and John Bruton said the talks could turn the page on a dark history.

Inside, nine parties - representing both the Protestant majority and the Roman Catholic minority - took their places for negotiations chaired by former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, President Clinton's key adviser on Northern Ireland.

"For too long the history of Northern Ireland has poisoned the present and threatened the future. It is time to end all that, however difficult it may be," Major said.

"History has involved too many victims. Too much blood has been spilt. For too long violence became so much a part of the political background that it almost began to be taken for granted," he told delegates.

"No one should be afraid to compromise," Major said. "It would be easy to prevent an

agreement in these talks, and hard to forge one. But no one can deny which is the better outcome, and it all depends on you."

Major and Irish Prime Minister John Bruton said they would not budge from their demand for an IRA cease-fire.

"That position is rooted in democracy. Our insistence on this core value can come as no surprise to Sinn Fein," Bruton said in his opening remarks.

Live television coverage was not permitted except for brief images of delegates sitting in place. Jim Dougal, chief political correspondent for the BBC in Northern Ireland, said government officials gave no explanation of the decision to restrict coverage.

Television crews were left with nothing to cover except the Sinn Fein group, which was allowed through the main gates but only to meet with civil servants. Senior British and Irish officials have refused to meet Sinn Fein since the IRA resumed its bombing campaign in February.

Although there were just the 15 Sinn Fein delegates and perhaps half as many bodyguards, a swarm of some 200 journalists and camera crews around them as they arrived jammed the main entrance to the Stormont

complex of government buildings. "We are not going to be treated like second class citizens. We would like the gates open, OK?" Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein's chief negotiator, told a British official before the gates were opened.

"It's only a small step," McGuinness added with a smile. Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams led a delegation including convicted IRA bomber Gerard Kelly, into the Stormont complex, the headquarters of the British administration in Northern Ireland.

Mitchell met inside with the Rev. Ian Paisley, the hard-line Protestant leader who had threatened to walk out of the negotiations because of the IRA role given to Mitchell.

In February, Major and Bruton announced the June 10 deadline for talks, calculating that a fixed date would soothe IRA supporters' anger at the slow pace of the peace process.

The IRA had complained of the slow pace of the peace process when it ended its 17-month truce Feb. 9 with a truck bomb in London that killed two men.

"You cannot expect people in a democracy to sit down and negotiate the future of part of their country with people who rely on the threat of violence if they don't get what they want," Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Maynew said on the BBC.

News agencies BELFAST

# Commuter hydrofoil overturns off Naples

News agencies NAPLES

A hydrofoil packed with commuters and weekend tourists struck rocks and capsized off a small island in the Bay of Naples yesterday, killing four people and tossing scores of passengers into the sea.

The dead, all Italians, included sisters aged 75 and 62 and another woman of 69, hospital officials said. The body of a man of about 70 was also recovered.

About 50 people were treated for injuries. The hydrofoil ferry had about 157 passengers and crew on board when it smashed into rocks in thick fog off the island of Procida as it headed towards the nearby port city of Naples at about 8:45 a.m.

Officials said the evacuation of the ship was relatively orderly, with passengers and crew having time to put on life vests before the boat took on water and turned on its side.

The survivors swam to shore or were picked up by fishing boats and pleasure craft in Procida port. The high-speed boat which skims the water began its morning run by taking aboard some 90 commuters headed for Procida from the resort island of Ischia, then took on about 60 more passengers from Procida, a small island closer to shore.

The boat apparently hit the reef just after pulling away from Procida's dock and overturned, dumping the passengers into the sea.

"The island was covered by heavy fog at the time," said a spokesman for the paramilitary Carabinieri, Luigi Sebe.

Most of the passengers started swimming the 200 meters back to a tiny beach, where fishermen went out to rescue them.

Most of the passengers were treated by medical crews on the dockside and at the island's small hospital. The most seriously injured were taken by boat to hospitals on the mainland.

The hydrofoil Procida, with a crew of 15, is part of the fleet of SNAV, one of several companies whose hydrofoils and ferries run regular commuter and tourist services between Naples and the islands of Capri, Ischia and Procida, as well as popular Mediterranean coastal resorts.

Procida is an island of fishermen that was one of the island's where the award-winning film *Il Postino* (The Postman) was shot.

# Writer who scandalized Japan dead at 98

TOKYO (AP) - Chiyo Uno, a pioneering female writer whose tempestuous love affairs scandalized Japan in the 1920s and '30s, died yesterday at age 98.

Born November 28, 1897, in western Yamaguchi prefecture, Uno made her first splash on Tokyo's literary scene in 1921 by winning first prize in a short-story contest.

She abandoned her first husband, a banker, and plunged into a series of love affairs with members of Tokyo's bohemia.

The most spectacular came in 1930 with painter Seiji Togo, who a year earlier had attempted to commit double suicide with a different lover.

Entranced by accounts of the failed suicide, Uno introduced herself to the painter. The two began a love affair at once and lived together for several years, although they were never legally married.

However, Togo began to tire of the relationship and began an affair with Mitsuko Nishizaki, the woman with whom he had tried to kill himself. Nishizaki had married someone else but divorced him to marry Togo.

It made for blaring headlines in the newspapers of the day. But Uno was already no stranger to the gossip pages; in 1927 she scandalized the nation by pioneering a short bobbed haircut.

The haircut was so radical, recounts Rebecca Copeland in *The Sound of Wind: The Life and Works of Uno Chiyo*, that children in Uno's neighborhood ran away shrieking when they saw her.

The affair with Togo led to Uno's first enduring work, *Confessions of Love* (1935), which along with several other novels and short stories has been translated into English.

The story is based on Togo's many love affairs and depicts the decadence of Japan's roaring '20s. Uno also designed kimonos and in 1936 she founded *Style*, Japan's first fashion magazine.

# Russia, Chechen rebels sign peace agreement

NAZRAN (Reuters) - Russian and rebel Chechen negotiators signed an agreement yesterday intended to end 18 months of fighting in the breakaway Chechnya region.

The agreement, read out to reporters at the signing ceremony, provided for a withdrawal of Russian troops by the end of August and a demilitarisation of Chechnya - a term meaning the disarmament of rebel Chechen forces seeking independence.

The agreement allows for local elections to be held in Chechnya only after the Russian troop withdrawal, removing an obstacle that had been blocking agreement. Moscow had wanted a parliamentary election held next Sunday.

President Boris Yeltsin has said ending the conflict is important to his chances of winning Russia's presidential election.

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שבת 11 ביוני 1996

# Dina Eldor: An authentic touch Moving mountains at Habimah

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

TWO years ago, producer Dina Eldor started what many deemed an act of professional and financial suicide by initiating a subscription series of early-music concerts, the first of its kind in Israel.

Eldor has almost singlehandedly changed several common beliefs and trends. First she organized a series in which she is a partner with the Jerusalem Music Center - the first time a private and public artistic organization have collaborated to such an extent in Israel.

Also on the program are other early-music ensembles making their Israeli debut including the Camerata Köln playing music by Bach, Telemann and Vivaldi, Il Seminario Musicale from France performing cantatas and airs by Charpentier, Monteverdi, Scarlatti and others; Britain's leading viol consort Fretwork presenting fantasias, pavanes, galliards and songs by Bryans, Byrd and Jenkins on the one hand and even composers like Elvis Costello and Michael Nyman on the other; and the Kuijken brothers trio from Belgium with renowned harpsichordist Gustav Leonhardt playing an evening of Bach.

The 1996/97 Authentica season opens with a special gala concert by the European Union Baroque Orchestra under Roy Goodman at the Mann Auditorium on October 5, playing music by Scarlatti, Marais, Zelenka, Vivaldi and Bach.

Subscriptions and tickets to the third Authentica early-music concert series are now on sale.

HELEN KAYE  
move, says a line in the drama - Takada's name means The Mountain. It's true that your reach should always exceed your grasp, but for that to work, you need to know where your limits are, you need to be able to distinguish between reality and illusion.

teaching methods and course of studies seemed irrelevant. Today's art is highly individualistic with no feeling of responsibility for what's going on.

## Gaelic majesty

IN TUNE  
DAVID BRINN  
COMMON GROUND  
Voices of Modern Irish Music (NMC)



Donal Lunny (far right) is the brainchild of 'Common Ground,' which features musicians as diverse as Bono and Adam Clayton.

TRADITIONAL Irish music conjures up visions of rolling green hills and crashing white waves. I don't mean the four-leaf-clover music of the Irish Rovers, but rather the majestic music of the Chieftains and the Clancy Brothers. On *Common Ground*, you'll find the hills, the waves and more.

like Blue Suede's "Hooked on a Feeling" (Remember ooga chucks ooga chucks?) from Steven Wright's wonderfully bad '70s radio show from the film *Reservoir Dogs*, it gives the impression that you're listening to Top 40 radio run amok.

Wynette "Backstabbers" - O'Jays  
Send answers to IN TUNE, c/o David Brinn, Jerusalem Post POB 81, Romema 91000

THE first correct answer received will win the CD. To be fair to computer-challenged people, E-mail will not be accepted.

Standout tracks include Crowded House founders Tim and Neil Finn's lilting "Mary of the South Seas," written especially for the project. Sinéad O'Connor's delicate interpretation of "On Raglan Road" and Kate Bush's rousing turn in Gaelic, "Mna Na H-Eireann."

Together they create a sparkling backdrop for Ure's spiritual lyrics and uplifting melodies.

IN TUNE CONTEST #1  
Name the movies from the '90s whose sound tracks contained the following songs from *Songs from the Movies II* and you'll win the CD.

**Drive Carefully! Arrive Safely!**

These are small criticisms to be sure, on a largely successful attempt to bridge the past and the present.

What's next, Human League unplugged?

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#1	NEW	METALLICA	"LOAD"
#2	NEW	AVIV GEFEN	THE LETTER
#3	1	GEORGE MICHAEL	OLDER
#4	RE	VARIOUS ARTISTS	SHALOM HAVER
#5	3	RITA	COMPLICATION
#6	2	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VOLUME 10
#7	12	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MORNING GLORY
#8	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	HIP HIP HOORAY 2
#9	4	SHLOMO ARTZI	TWO
#10	21	GRANBERRIES	TO THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
#11	6	ALANIS MORISSETTE	JAGGED LITTLE PILL
#12	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DREAMLAND
#13	8	VARIOUS ARTISTS	MAKE LOVE NOT WAR
#14	7	NOA	CALLING
#15	22	ABBA	GOLD

BREATHE  
Midge Ure (Hed Artzl)  
Irish music rears its head in the most unlikely of places.

They're both great songs, but when they're sandwiched between inconsequential string instrumentals and pop dreck

## The triumphant return of Gisele Ben-Dor

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

ONE really cannot imagine a harsher punishment for an orchestra than to be forced to play in a hall which distorts its sound and hides its true potential. That, regrettably, seems to happen to the Ra'anana Symphony, playing in the Yad Labanim auditorium in Ra'anana. The hall's hyper-dry acoustics not only dehydrate the music but actually make it sound choked - as if being played in a closed box.

phony, both emerged as tightly knit, logically developing pieces. The accuracy with which orchestral parts come together and merge under Ben-Dor is remarkable. Ben-Dor combines, in her conducting movements, both the beat and the musical phrase, thus fusing the technical and the musical dimension in a most impressive way.

## Indian wizardry spun at Israel Festival

CONCERT ROUNDUP

WHAT made the performance of Zakir Hussain's Indian Percussion Ensemble and *Bonsuri* flutist Hariprasad Chaurasia a unique event is that, in Hussain's own words, "it will never happen again."

An equally unsolved question is, at what precise point the extremely slow and meditative opening of Hussain and Chaurasia's *Noon Raga* begins to develop into an ecstatically fast celebration - so gradually and imperceptibly does the transformation take place.

THE Bach Solo Sonatas and Partitas were treated by Austrian violinist Thomas Zebutnair, in his recital, as the secular works that they are, divesting them of the stately and academic ceremonialism with which they are often rendered.

and, in the two last movements, also the profound somberness that is a forerunner of his later, more mature works.

On a more lighthearted level, Dvorak's American Quartet sparkled with joy, drive, songfulness and rhythmic freshness. The sense of togetherness and consolidation by these four players is a realization of the true chamber music spirit.

## Gruesome 'Merchant' also gripping in parts

THEATER REVIEW  
NAOMI DOUDAI

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE  
By William Shakespeare. Direction, Hanan Snir. Set, Roni Toren. Costumes, Wally Linder-Badatz. Music, Alexandra Holtsch. Dances, National Theater Weizman at the Sherover Theater, Jerusalem (Performed at the Israel Festival on June 1). Hebrew title, *Hasofer Mirvencia*.

ever controversial play. Antisemitic or not, here the question of guilt is subtly and visually - if not verbally (for the text remains intact) - turned off the Jews and onto their German tormentors.

(Henning Orphal) with the roles was at times so harrowing and horrendous, it was almost more than one could bear.

school-level farce. If essential as light relief, its effect is feeble when the drag queens, Portia and an enchanting Nerissa (Daniel Graf), tum up at the famous court scene.

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VIEWPOINTS  
Subject: "ISRAEL TOWARDS THE 21ST CENTURY"  
Panel: Prof. Mordechai Sokolov, Technological Analysis & Forecasting  
Dr. Alon Liel, Director General of the Ministry of Economy and Planning  
Dr. Chaim Assa, Strategic Advisor to the late Yitzhak Rabin  
Moderator: Dr. Yoram Peri  
The Venue: The Auditorium of Yad Lebanim, 147 Ahuza St., Ra'anana  
Date: Sunday, 16th June, 1996, at 8.30 p.m.  
Cost: NIS 15.00  
Any further info: Ruth Lee 09-7743861 / 7740887





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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Key Representative Rates table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates against NIS.

NYSE STOCK MARKET table with columns for Last and Change.

New York market indexes table listing DJ Industrials, DJ Transp, etc.

Other stock market indexes table including FTSE 100, Nikkei, etc.

Israeli stocks in NY table listing companies like Anix, Arad, etc.

NYSE / AMEX table listing various stock indices.

Commodity prices table listing Gold, Silver, etc.

LIBOR RATES table showing interest rates for different terms.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

US commodities table listing Corn, Soybean, etc.

US commodities table listing Wheat, Cotton, etc.

Spot market metals (US) table listing Gold, Silver, etc.

New York metal futures table listing Gold, Silver, etc.

London metal fixes table listing Gold, Silver, etc.

London metal fixes table listing Copper, Zinc, etc.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading sub-headers.

Main Tel Aviv Stock Market table with columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume.

PARALLEL LIST

PARALLEL LIST table listing various companies and their prices.

Withdrawal from provident funds lowers market

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET ROBERT DANIEL

Main article text discussing market withdrawal and investor sentiment.

Eurobourses end lower after strong morning

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

Text discussing Eurobourses and world market roundup.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Source: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices for various countries and companies.

Stocks slightly lower

WALL STREET REPORT

Text discussing Wall Street report and stock prices.

CURRENCY CROSS RATES

Table of currency cross rates for various international currencies.





# Rivalry over Housing Ministry straining coalition talks

NATIONAL Religious Party leader Zevulun Hammer is to meet this morning with prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu to try to resolve the row which last night appeared to threaten NRP participation in the new coalition.

In a fit of fury, Hammer announced yesterday that he would recommend that his party not enter the coalition. This came after what was described as an "unpleasant meeting" with top Likud negotiators in which Hammer laid claim to the Housing portfolio for his party and was flayed turned down.

The Housing portfolio, coveted by most of the prospective coalition partners, continued to generate the most trouble for the Likud negotiators throughout the day. Yesterday the Likud was given ultimatums by the NRP, Yisrael Ba'aliya and United Torah Judaism - all over the Housing portfolio.

The blow-up with the NRP occurred when Hammer met with MK-elect Yitzhak Mordechai and with Netanyahu's right-hand man Avigdor Lieberman. Hammer was upset that his party was being offered lesser portfolios than those set aside for Shas. He accused the Likud of taking the NRP for granted and of treating it contemptuously, despite the fact that the NRP had unequivocally endorsed Netanyahu during the election campaign.

Both the NRP and Shas got the portfolios they were most after - Education for the NRP and the Interior for Shas. But Shas, according to unofficial reports, was also promised Labor and Social Affairs, while the second portfolio reportedly offered the NRP was Communications. According to some reports Health may also be offered the NRP, perhaps

even in addition to Communications.

The prize offered Shas is a ministry with enormous clout, while the Communications portfolio is considered minor, especially as the intention now is to remove responsibility for broadcast and cable TV from that ministry. The Health portfolio is considered undesirable.

Hammer was described as livid when he conferred with Mordechai and Lieberman, and said his party will feel that it is being treated as well as Shas only if its second portfolio is Housing. His Likud interlocutors told him right off that the Housing portfolio will in any case remain in Likud hands, and probably be given to Ariel Sharon, if he will agree to take it.

Sharon, meanwhile, appeared to be in good spirits after emerging from a four-hour meeting with prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu.

Both sides insisted that portfolios were not discussed, only defense issues. Hammer responded that he would recommend that his party not enter the coalition.

The second crisis the Likud encountered yesterday also involved the Housing portfolio. Likud negotiators met with Yisrael Ba'aliya representatives and were told that the Housing portfolio is make-or-break for that party. MK-elect Yuri Stern argued that Yisrael Ba'aliya's support emanated in great part from the frustration new immigrants feel about their housing problems and that his party was elected to provide a solution to these problems. He threatened that his party would not compro-

mise on this portfolio, even if it means staying out of the coalition.

So far Yisrael Ba'aliya seems nonenthusiastic about the reported offer of the Industry and Trade portfolio. Yisrael Ba'aliya's negotiators are to meet with the Likud again this morning.

The third dispute over the Housing portfolio involved United Torah Judaism, which demanded the portfolio for Meir Porush. Like Yisrael Ba'aliya, UTJ argues that its constituency is plagued by severe housing problems and that it had promised to help solve these problems.

Porush rejected the suggestion that he serve in the Housing Ministry as Sharon's deputy minister. Though UTJ's rabbinic mentors have never allowed its MKs to serve as ministers, they have served as deputy ministers with no ministers above them. UTJ wants full control of the portfolio in this fashion.

Porush suggested last night, however, that the council might break from its tradition and allow him to become a minister. UTJ's Avraham Ravitz said last night that "it isn't that we don't want Arif [Sharon] to get the portfolio. Far from it. We love Arif and he knows it. But so far as we are concerned Arif can get Finance. We are not blacklisting him, we just need this portfolio to help our long-suffering population."

The betting in the Likud last night was still that Sharon will get an expanded Housing portfolio - probably together with the Transport portfolio - and that UTJ would be offered two deputy minister posts in the Housing Ministry.

The question now is whether this offer had been put to Sharon, whether Sharon has accepted it and whether UTJ would consent.



Students from Tel Aviv University's Drama Club, with their backs to the Tower of David Museum in Jerusalem's Old City, perform Aeschylus's 'Suppliant Women' at the Fourth International Student Theater Festival, which opened yesterday in the capital. (Avi Hayon)

## Peres, Zvilli discuss advancing leadership primary

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres and Labor Party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli last night discussed the possibility of advancing the party's leadership primary.

"Peres is the only one who will set the party's timetable for the leadership elections," Zvilli said. Labor's political bureau is due to convene to debate the issue after the new Knesset is sworn in next week.

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak, who has been pushing for a primary by the end of the year, canceled a scheduled meeting of ministers and MKs who support him after hearing of the tragedy in Lebanon.

Barak discussed the issue with Peres in what was described as a positive, friendly conversation, and it was reported that he will

leave the decision up to Peres.

Barak's rival, Interior Minister Haim Ramon came out against early elections, and blasted Barak indirectly for trying to undermine Peres's authority.

"It is too early to act to change the leadership and to start a fight over who will head the party," he said. "The new government hasn't even been set up yet, and already some people are pushing the prime minister to go home. It's either respectable nor the way to behave when you lose. Peres has contributed to the state and to the party for many years and he deserves to complete his term as party leader in a dignified manner."

He said he has not yet decided whether to run for the party lead-

ership. "I want to know what kind of party I'm running in and what the election system will be," he said, reiterating his call for an open primary, in which the entire public can vote.

MK Dalia Itzik, who is contending for the position of secretary-general, also came out against moving up the elections. She said Peres intends to spend the next year rehabilitating the party, as he has done in the past.

"His leadership is essential, at least for the first year after the electoral defeat. He is the cement which can mend the rifts in the party, and most MKs feel the same way," she said.

She lashed out at "some people who are running too fast. It doesn't look dignified. Any step to advance the party elections must be taken together with Peres. We must wait two weeks or a month, until Peres gets back to himself, and examine all the options coolly and in an orderly way, rather than impulsively."

She attacked the ministers who are pushing for a unity government, noting that such a move would be "dignifying and disgraceful. Whoever tries to do so will turn us into a Likud B, led by Likud A."

Itzik, who criticized Ramon and Barak for their mutual accusations, called for Zvilli's resignation, saying he is one of the leaders responsible for the party's defeat.

Zvilli responded that "there are some who are trying to pull the party together and others who are occupied with intrigue and dispute. I hope she feels satisfied with what she did for Peres's election in the campaign. Apart from that I have no comment."

## Man remanded for part in cocaine smuggling

RAINE MARCUS

A MAN allegedly involved in smuggling 38 kilograms of cocaine into Israel some three months ago was remanded for eight days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Solomon Amar was arrested on Saturday, after police captured Pinhas Ohana, his brother-in-law, who had been on the wanted list for three months.

Ohana was arrested in his Bat Yam apartment and was remanded on Sunday for his alleged part in smuggling the cocaine from the US in a furniture container. Police said at the time that this was the largest amount of the drug ever smuggled directly into Israel.

The container was shipped in the names of Ohana's brother and sister-in-law, who had lived in the US for several years.

## Deri asks Supreme Court to disqualify judges

EVELYN GORDON

SHAS MK Aryeh Deri and his co-defendants appealed to the Supreme Court yesterday to ask that the three Jerusalem District Court judges hearing their trial be disqualified.

The trial, on corruption charges, has been going on for three years, and the prosecution has only just completed presenting its case. The defense has not yet been heard. If Deri's request to disqualify the judges is accepted, it will mean starting the entire trial over again - something the Supreme Court is very unlikely to agree to.

Deri's lawyer, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, argued that the three judges - Ya'acov Zeman, Miriam Naor, and Moussia Arad - are hopelessly biased against his client, and therefore cannot try the case fairly. As proof of this, he cited the judges' June 3 decision on the defense's request for a summer break, should the trial still be going on at that time.

The decision was issued just as the defense began to argue "no case" - that the prosecution had not proved its charges, and that therefore there was no need for the defense to even respond. However, the court wrote in its decision that "there is still a long road to travel until the end of the trial." This proves, Avi-Yitzhak said, that the court had made up its mind to reject the "no case" arguments even before it had heard them.

Avi-Yitzhak also charged that the court had exhibited numerous other instances of bias. For instance, the judges blamed the defense for the extraordinary

length of the trial, even though the prosecution has been running the show until now; they rejected some of the defense's requests for delays, while accepting prosecution requests (though many delays requested by the defense were granted); and they threatened that if the defense did not reach agreements with the prosecution as to some of the facts - a time-saving measure - it would take this into consideration "come judgment day."

Originally, Avi-Yitzhak had asked the three judges to disqualify themselves, which they refused to do. In their decision, they wrote that only someone who had sat through the trial or read through the thousands of pages of protocols could understand how unjust these charges were, and with what patience the court had behaved towards the defense. However, Avi-Yitzhak charged, they did not respond to most of the specific accusations he raised.

Regarding the June 3 decision, the judges noted that the issue of a summer break would arise only if the "no case" arguments were rejected; therefore, its decision to grant the request was clearly "in the event that [these] arguments are rejected."

The appeal strenuously denied that the request to disqualify the judges was a tactical measure. No defendant would take the risk of asking to disqualify a judge unless he felt it was crucial, Avi-Yitzhak said, because if the request is turned down, he will continue to be tried before a judge he has now antagonized.

**WEATHER**

Haifa	20-31
Tiberias	21-30
Ashdod	20-30
Semaria	18-31
Tel Aviv	21-30
Jerusalem	17-31
Beer Sheva	19-32
Dead Sea	27-30
Elon	28-41
Golden	17-30

Forecast: Clear, fine in temperatures.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

Location	Low	High	Cloud
Amsterdam	12	14	partly
Berlin	10	14	partly
Buenos Aires	18	27	partly
Caracas	27	31	partly
Chicago	21	28	partly
Copenhagen	14	17	partly
Frankfurt	14	18	partly
Geneva	17	23	partly
Hong Kong	25	34	partly
London	13	18	partly
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Madrid	13	18	partly
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New York	20	28	partly
Paris	12	18	partly

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